

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Klaus-Dieter HAMMER et al.
Title: SAUSAGE CASING WITH STARCH OR STARCH DERIVATIVES AND
METHOD FOR PRODUCING THE SAME
Appl. No.: UNASSIGNED
Filing Date: July 14, 2000
Examiner: Unassigned
Art Unit: Unassigned

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Submitted herewith on Form PTO-1449 is a listing of documents known to Applicants in order to comply with Applicants' duty of disclosure pursuant to 37 CFR 1.56. A copy of each listed document is being submitted to comply with the provisions of 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98.

The submission of any document herewith, which is not a statutory bar, is not intended as an admission that such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application or that such document is considered material to patentability as defined in 37 CFR §1.56(b). Applicants do not waive any rights to take any action which would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove as a competent reference any document which is determined to be a prima facie prior art reference against the claims of the present application.

**CONCISE EXPLANATION OF
RELEVANCE OF EACH DOCUMENT**

Documents A1, A2 and A4-A9 came to Applicants' attention during a search of Applicants' International Patent Application. A copy of the International Search Report setting forth the portion of each reference considered relevant by the examiner is attached. Document A4 is also described in the present specification. Document A3 corresponds to Documents A4 and A5.

English translations of the foreign documents are not readily available; however, English language abstracts are provided, where available. The absence of such translations does not relieve the PTO from its duty to consider the submitted documents (37 CFR §1.98 and MPEP §609).

The listed documents are being submitted in compliance with 37 C.F.R. §1.97(b), within three (3) months of the filing date.

Applicants respectfully request that the listed documents be considered by the Examiner and formally be made of record in the present application and that an initialed copy of Form PTO-1449 be returned in accordance with MPEP §609.

Respectfully submitted,

Date July 14, 2000

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